

Handout #8: Open-Ended Question Guide for Needs Assessment

- Where does the community spend most of their time?
- How does the community spend most of their time?
- What is the predominant religion in the community?
- How much time would you say individuals spend in their religious institutions?
 - In religious services?
 - In extracurricular activities?
- What does the community feel about the health system?
- Where does the community get their health information?
- Where does the community get their general news information?
- Where does the community seek medical care?
- What constitutes a medical visit?
- Does the community practice alternatives to traditional medicine? If so, what?
- What does “sick” mean?
- Are there any health regulations/vaccine requirements for the population?
- What is the biggest health concern for the community?
- What would you say is the biggest health issue affecting the community?
- Are there any competitors to a healthy lifestyle within the community? If so, what are they? (Resources, habits, religious beliefs, etc.)
- What is the biggest general concern for the community?
- What would you say is the biggest issue facing the community?
- Is there a leading occupation/job within the community? If so, what?
- How many people are permanent residents of the community? How many are migrant workers? What is the turnover in the community?
- Who are trusted sources of official information/advice in the community?
- What media outlets does the community trust? Use? Specific stations/channels/titles?
- Who are the community leaders? What do they do?
- What/where are the community centers?
- What does the community value?
- What is the general education level of the community?
- What are the perceived gender roles?
- What is the predominant language? Bilingual?
- How would individuals in the community identify themselves? (For example, by their family roles, their cultural heritage, their gender, their occupations, their hobbies)
- Are there any community pastimes? If so, what are they?